

November 28, 2006

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Room 8-B201
Washington, DC 20554

Submitted electronically

Dear Chairman Martin:

On behalf of the Northern California Chapter of APCO and its members, I am writing to express support for the principles of Cyren Call Communications proposal (FCC RM No. 11348) to build a nationwide, wireless broadband network for public safety. America's first responders and others directly involved with protecting our homeland deserve sufficient spectrum combined with innovative funding methods to access the most advanced wireless communications services and technology.

The Northern California Chapter of APCO represents the public safety community within the northern 48 of California's 58 counties. This area contains approximately one-half of the state's population. Our collective interests encompass all facets of public safety: fire, law enforcement, EMS as well as general government operations. Our organization realizes first-hand the need for a nationwide broadband network that would enable instantaneously receiving timely information at the scene of an incident.

Our nation has a unique opportunity to allocate 30 MHz of spectrum in the upper 700 MHz band to be held in trust for public safety to create a nationwide public safety broadband network. The principles within Cyren Call's proposal include: (1) reallocating the 30 MHz block of frequencies from the planned auction of 700 MHz spectrum to public safety; (2) creating a Public Safety Broadband Trust to hold the spectrum license(s), and (3) using private capital to fund a public/private shared network built to public safety's specifications. This proposal is innovative and, for the first time, cohesively resolves the multitude of problems contributing to public safety's communications problems by joining public and private interests.

I urge the FCC Commissioners, Congressional Representatives and other decision-makers in Washington, D.C. to fulfill their obligation to act in the public interest. Time is of the essence and if action is not taken quickly, the frequencies will be auctioned in early 2008 for commercial purposes and this opportunity will be lost forever. Please prioritize public safety by allocating the 30 MHz of spectrum to a Public Safety Broadband Trust enabling the principles of Cyren Call's proposal to create a communications system benefiting all Americans.

Sincerely,

Steve Overacker, President,
Northern California Chapter, APCO

By Preston Thomson, Chair, Dockets Committee
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